

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND OFFICE ADMINISTRATION

COURSE OUTLINE – Fall 2025

BA1010 (A2): Business Communications – 3 (3-1-0) 60 Hours for 15 Weeks

Northwestern Polytechnic acknowledges that our campuses are located on Treaty 8 territory, the ancestral and present-day home to many diverse First Nations, Metis, and Inuit people. We are grateful to work, live and learn on the traditional territory of Duncan's First Nation, Horse Lake First Nation and Sturgeon Lake Cree Nation, who are the original caretakers of this land.

We acknowledge the history of this land and we are thankful for the opportunity to walk together in friendship, where we will encourage and promote positive change for present and future generations.

INSTRUCTOR: Amy Rawluk, CPA, **PHONE:** 780-539-2873
MBA
OFFICE: C413 **E-MAIL:** ARawluk@nwpolytech.ca
OFFICE HOURS: Monday 11:30am – 1:00pm and Wednesday 10:00 – 11:30am

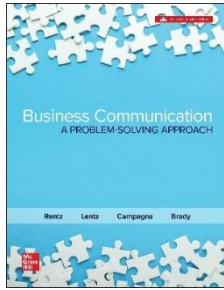
CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:

This course focuses on principles of effective business communications, both written and spoken, including mechanics, style, tone, organization and APA style referencing. Specific topics include composing business letters, memoranda and emails; writing formal reports; principles of graphic design; and conducting effective business meetings.

PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE:

None

REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:



All students must have access to Connect. You must have an access code to gain access to the online resources. McGraw-Hill Connect™ is a web-based assignment and assessment platform that gives students the means to better connect with their coursework, and with the important concepts that they will need to know for success now and in the future. If you have purchased a used book, you will have to purchase an access code separately.

Instructions to do this are available in the Registration Module.

DELIVERY MODE:

On-campus (face-to-face) – This type of course will be delivered on campus in a specific location which will be indicated on the student timetable. Students are expected to fully attend in person.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to do the following:

- Apply the correct use of grammar, spelling, sentence structure and punctuation in writing.
- Research, plan, compose, edit, and document a formal academic paper.
- Research, plan, execute and evaluate an effective oral presentation.

TRANSFERABILITY:

Please consult the Alberta Transfer Guide for more information. You may check the transferability of this course at the Alberta Transfer Guide main page [Transfer Alberta](#)

** For courses with alpha (letter) grading, a grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. **Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability.**

EVALUATIONS:

In-class activities	10%
Academic Integrity Module	7.5%
Grammar quizzes (best 2/3 @ 5%)	10%
E-mail exercise	5%
Bad News Letter assignment in Connect	5%
Editing Exercise	10%

Final Research Paper – to be submitted in components	40%
Component A: Literature Review, Thesis (10%)	
Component B: Outline, Source Evaluation (10%)	
Component C: Final Composed Report (20%)	
Individual Presentation / Presentation Attendance	12.5%
Total	100%

GRADING CRITERIA:

Please note that most universities will not accept your course for transfer credit **IF** your grade is **less than C-**.

Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines	Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines
A+	4.0	95-100	C+	2.3	67-69
A	4.0	85-94	C	2.0	63-66
A-	3.7	80-84	C-	1.7	60-62
B+	3.3	77-79	D+	1.3	55-59
B	3.0	73-76	D	1.0	50-54
B-	2.7	70-72	F	0.0	00-49

COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

Week Beginning	Topic	Required Reading	Assessments
Sept 3 (Wed)	Grammar and Mechanics	Appendix A	
Sept 8	Solving Communication Problems in the Workplace Getting Positive Responses to Your Communication	Chapters 1 & 2	Grammar Quiz 1
Sept 15	Designing the Right Type of Message	Chapter 4	
Sept 22	Crafting Effective Sentences and Paragraphs	Chapter 6	Grammar Quiz 2
Sept 29	Writing Good News and Neutral Messages	Chapter 7	Email Exercise
Oct 6	Writing Bad News Messages	Chapter 8	Bad News Letter Assignment
Oct 13	Communicating with Culturally Diverse Audiences Using Interpersonal Communication Skills in Conversation and Meetings	Chapters 3 & 13	Grammar Quiz 3
Oct 20	Researching and Writing Reports	Chapters 13 & 10	
Oct 27	A guide for documenting your sources APA	Chapters 10 & Appendix B	Academic Integrity Quiz Lit Review & Thesis
Nov 3	Paraphrase, Summary, and Quotes Revisited	myClass Resources	Editing Exercise
Nov 10-14	Fall Break – No Classes		
Nov 17	Communicating Your Message Visually	Chapter 5	Outline & Source Eval
Nov 24	Delivering Business Presentations and Speeches	Chapter 12	
Dec 1	Individual presentations based on research paper		Presentations

Dec 8	Individual presentations based on research paper		Presentations
Dec 13 - 20	Final Paper Due – date to be set by the Registrar’s office		Final Research Paper

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

Student Conduct

As a student, it is your responsibility to read, understand and comply with the polytechnic’s academic policies, which are reviewed regularly, updated and posted on our polytechnic website. If you have any questions regarding these policies, please contact Student Services.

Time Management

The expectation for this course is that students read/review the text material according to the class schedule. Adopting and adhering to effective learning habits in this course will likely take up a great deal of time so plan your schedule accordingly. It is difficult to catch up once a student falls behind in the readings and exercises.

Email

Email correspondence to your instructor must be sent from your NWP student email account. Emails should be professionally formatted and include a subject, correct spelling and grammar, and a reference to course material and/or textbook pages, etc.

STATEMENT ON ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT:

Academic Misconduct will not be tolerated. For a more precise definition of academic misconduct and its consequences, refer to the Student Rights and Responsibilities policy available: [Student Rights and Responsibility Policy](#)

**Note: all Academic and Administrative policies are available on the same page. [Policies Directory | Northwestern Polytechnic](#)